सत्यमेव जयते

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EXTRAORDINARY

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UNION TERRITORY OF LAKSHADWEEP ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & FOREST
KAVARATTI - 682 555
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F.No.LD-23007/7/2024-Pol-Legal-UT-LKS/555 Dated : 19.08.2025

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the power confirmed under Rule 16 (1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, and directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 12.12.1996 in WP(C) No.202/1995 (With WP(C) No.171 of 1996) and WP(C) No.1164 of 2023 dated 4th March 2025, the Administrator, Union territory of Lakshadweep is pleased to constitute an **Expert Committee** comprising of following members to oversee the compliance of the aforesaid order of the Supreme Court of India with immediate effect.

1. Secretary (Environment & Forest)	: Chairman
2. District Collector, UTLA, Kavaratti	: Member
3. Deputy Conservator of Forests	: Member
4. Director of Agriculture	: Member
5. Director of Social Welfare & Tribal Affairs	: Member
6. The Range Forest Officer, Forestry Division	: Member Secretary

Roles and Responsibility of the Expert Committee

(a) Identify areas which are "forests", irrespective of whether they are so notified, recognized or classified under any law, and irrespective of the ownership of the land of such forest.

(b) Identify areas which were earlier forests but stand degraded, denuded or cleared; and

(c) Identify areas covered by plantation trees belonging to the Government and those belonging to private persons.

This is issued with the approval of Competent Authority.

Sd/-
(RAJTHILAK. S, IFS)
Secretary, Environment & Forest